



UNIT 11 | SESSION 4

## DAVID SINNED AND WAS FORGIVEN

2 SAMUEL 11-12

### KEY PASSAGE:

Ephesians 1:7-8

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is grace? Grace is when God gives us something good even when we do not deserve it.

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

When David repented of his sin, God forgave him, but sin always comes with a price. God spared David's life, but David's son died. When we sin, we deserve death. But we can receive God's forgiveness because God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



## LEADER Bible Study

Why is it that we can be so quick to see the sins of others, but have such a hard time seeing our own? In 2 Samuel 12, after David had grievously sinned against Bathsheba, Uriah, and ultimately the Lord, he was confronted by Nathan and forced to see the depravity of his own failure.

Nathan came to David with a word from the Lord to help him see the significance of his own sin. David had not yet repented of his sin, but God was gracious to use Nathan to call David to repentance.

David's sin had snowballed as he tried to cover it up. Ultimately, David's sin escalated to the point of murder. Through a story of injustice, Nathan was able to confront David of his sin. Nathan helped David see the sickness of his own heart and actions, and he shared with David what he could expect as a consequence of his sin.

David needed what each of us needs as well: someone to whom we can disclose sin and who can help hold us accountable. What Nathan did for David was painful but powerful. Nathan helped David see sin in his life that needed to be repented.

Who in your life has the Lord used or could use to help you acknowledge sin, repent, and walk in righteousness? Who is a godly person able to help point you to truth?

Proverbs 27:17 says, "Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens another." Iron is sharpened by one surface rubbing against another so that the imperfections can be broken away. God has placed people in our lives who can speak truth to us and encourage us to live by faith.

As we follow Jesus, we need one another to walk in the light and find forgiveness in the Lord. We can also remember, by faith in Christ, we are sealed with the Holy Spirit who reveals sin and helps us to flee from temptation. The grace of God abounds as we strive to live a life of godliness, remembering we have a Savior who lives to intercede on our behalf, until at last we shall see Him face to face.

### TERMS TO KNOW

**Repentance:** Change of mind; regret or remorse accompanying a realization that wrong has been done; a thorough turning from self to God in which God is recognized as the most important fact of one's existence.



## WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

**SAY** “ Have you ever had to suffer the consequences of something you did wrong or a mistake you’ve made? ”

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Color Clues” on the activity page. Kids should use the key to fill in the spaces and discover the hidden word.

**SAY** “ Today, we will hear a story from the Bible about a time King David sinned against the Lord and needed to repent. This story will help us understand what we need to do when we sin. I am excited to share this story with you! ”

### 2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

#### OPTION 1: CAN YOU COPY?



Ask for three volunteers to come to the front. Challenge each kid to copy a set of actions after you. Begin by asking the kids to pay close attention as you do a set of three actions such as clapping your hands two times, touching your toes, and then touching your head. The first kid must copy your actions perfectly. If she does, she can stay up front. If she does not copy the actions perfectly, she should return to her seat. Continue with each kid, making the set of actions faster and harder to copy as the game goes on. Continue until there is one kid left who is the winner. Repeat the game as time allows.

**SAY** “ David, like all the other humans in the Bible, made mistakes and sinned against God. Today’s story will remind us that we can copy David’s example of repentance when we sin. ”

#### OPTION 2: STOP AND GO!

Direct kids to spread out and line up across one side of the room. Stand at the opposite end of the room. Challenge kids to pay close attention to you. Direct them to begin walking forward when you hold up the green paper and stop immediately when you hold up the red paper. Any kid who does not stop as soon as you hold the red paper up is out. As soon as kids get to your side of the room, direct them to walk back to where they started. Continue the game as long as time allows.

**SAY** “ God gives us inner ‘red lights’ that tell us to stop before we sin. Today, we will see that David did not stop when he felt that red light warning from God and had to suffer the consequences of his sin. ”





LEARN

## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LEARN the Bible Story

#### 1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to 2 Samuel 11–12. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “David Sinned and Was Forgiven.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

#### DAVID SINNED AND WAS FORGIVEN

“ One spring, **King David sent out Israel’s army.** Instead of going with them, David put another man in charge, and **David stayed in Jerusalem.**”

**One evening, David looked out from his palace and saw a beautiful woman named Bathsheba. Bathsheba was the wife of Uriah (yoo RIGH uh), one of the best warriors in David’s army. David sent his messengers to get Bathsheba, and she came to David’s house. Later, Bathsheba told David that she was going to have a baby; the baby was David’s.**

**David knew he had sinned, so David made a plan** to make sure no one found out that Bathsheba’s baby was his.

**First, David called Uriah home from the battle.** Then David told Uriah to go spend time with his wife. **But Uriah didn’t think it was fair for him to relax at home while the other men were at war. Uriah slept on David’s doorstep and refused to visit his wife.** No matter what David did or said, Uriah did not go home to his wife.

**David’s plan was not working, so he made a new plan. He instructed the leader of the army to send Uriah into the hardest part of the battle so he would be killed. This time, David’s plan worked.** Uriah was killed in battle. **David took Bathsheba into his house to be his wife, and she had a baby boy.**

God knew what evil things David had done. **God sent Nathan the prophet to talk to David. Nathan told David a story: A traveler came to a rich man who had many animals. The rich man did not offer his own animal. Instead, he took a poor man’s lamb—the only lamb he had—and gave it to the traveler to eat.**

**This story made David feel angry.** “The rich man should die!” David said.

**“You are the man!” Nathan said. God had given David a position of great power, and David took what wasn’t his. David realized he had sinned against God.** David deserved to die. “You won’t die for this,” Nathan assured David, “but God will punish you. Your son will die instead.”

Christ Connection: When David repented of his sin, God forgave him, but sin always comes with a price. God spared David’s life, but David’s son died. When we sin, we deserve death. But we can receive God’s forgiveness because God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin. ”

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Discuss new words:** Focus on the word “repent” and explain how the word repent is illustrated in the story when David realized his sin against God and asked for forgiveness.

**Use a visual:** Use a toy lamb as a visual as you explain the story Nathan told David.

## 2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

**SAY** “ David was a human, and just like every human, he sinned. After David sinned, he tried to cover it up. How did David try to cover up his sin? Look at 2 Samuel 11:15. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Sam. 11:15] Did David’s plan work? [Allow kids to respond.] No, it did not. God sees everything and knows everything and nothing can be hidden from him.

God sent Nathan to David to show him his sin and how it displeased the Lord. After Nathan told David the story of the rich man who had taken the lamb from the poor man, David was angry. He thought the rich man should pay for what he did. What did Nathan say to David? Look at 2 Samuel 12:7-9. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Sam. 12:7-9.]

David realized his sin against the Lord. He repented and asked God to forgive him. Did God forgive David’s sin? [Allow kids to respond.] Yes, He did! God is faithful to forgive our sin when we come to Him in repentance. This is one of the many ways we see God’s grace in David’s life, and in our lives too. God forgave David’s sin, even when he didn’t deserve it. God does the same for us through Jesus. ”

## 3 CHRIST CONNECTION

**SAY** “ When David repented of his sin, God forgave him, but sin always comes with a price. God spared David’s life, but David’s son died. When we sin, we deserve death. But we can receive God’s forgiveness because God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

## 4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 11, Session 4” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. What should you do if you still feel guilty after saying sorry to someone you hurt?
2. Why do we sometimes say or do things to hurt other people?

## 5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Display the poster. Explain that God is using technology to get the stories of the Bible to people who don’t have Bibles in their own languages. Look at each picture with the kids, reading the captions.

**SAY** “ Technology can sometimes be harmful, but it can also be used in great ways. Missionaries are using technology to reach people with the good news of Jesus. Some people are hearing Bible stories in their own languages for the first time.

What do you think would be difficult about making Bible story videos in another language? What do you think would be easy or fun about it? ”